Intrinsic Bioprobes Inc.

Arizona Manufacturing Extension Partnership

AZ MEP Helps IBI Move an Innovative Product Closer to the Marketplace

Client Profile:
Intrinsic Bioprobes, Inc. (IBI) provides biotechnology companies with comprehensive analysis for drug discovery, development and diagnostics. IBI has developed a product that will be used by laboratories to detect and learn the characterization of certain biodefense agents. The product, a pipette-fitted microcolumn that is modified with antibodies to recognize biodefense agents from buffer, tap water and complex samples such as milk. The product allows the capture and detection of protein toxins in a single test which significantly reduces the cost and time of analysis for such illnesses as diabetes and kidney disease. Use of this product allows for the screening of multiple biodefense agents in a single analysis. IBI, established in 1996, currently employs 8 people at its facility in Tempe, Arizona.

Situation:
IBI was selected as a recipient of a National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant to assist the company in moving their newly developed product/process closer to full scale production. The challenge facing IBI was the research and development phase that would confirm the manufacturability of a quality product. The Arizona Manufacturing Extension Partnership (Arizona MEP), a NIST MEP network affiliate, was contacted to engage in this pilot program.

Solution:
Arizona MEP determined what expertise was needed. It was determined that an experienced scientist was required to identify quality control checks for the manufacturing process. Arizona MEP identified an appropriate person and contracted with the scientist to accomplish the task. Arizona MEP monitored the project progress and attended to requisite reporting requirements, including final report to the client and NIH. A wet chemist assisted IBI in confirming the pass-fail evaluation for the point of manufacture with recommendations for specific test equipment, such as photometric measurement devices, e.g. quality control checkpoints. With Arizona MEP assistance, IBI was able to move closer to full scale manufacturing with their product for critical end-user biotechnology in the form of devices and kits that enable high-throughput mass research and development and diagnostic analyses.

Results:
* Invested $10,000 in production of new product.
* Created 1 new job.

Testimonial:
"This supplement of quality and regulatory aspects of this very marketable product will increase the value of the product multi-fold. This project could certainly launch Intrinsic Bioprobes into a growth of business."

Dr. Kemmons A. Tubbs, Vice President